

## EXCAVATIONS AT SARAÇHANE IN ISTANBUL: FIFTH PRELIMINARY REPORT

R. MARTIN HARRISON AND NEZİH FIRATLI

with a Contribution on

A SEVENTH-CENTURY POTTERY GROUP

by

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THE fifth campaign on the early sixth-century church of St. Polyeuktos at Saraçhane in Istanbul lasted twelve weeks, until 23 August 1968.<sup>1</sup> In earlier seasons we had concentrated upon the main body of the

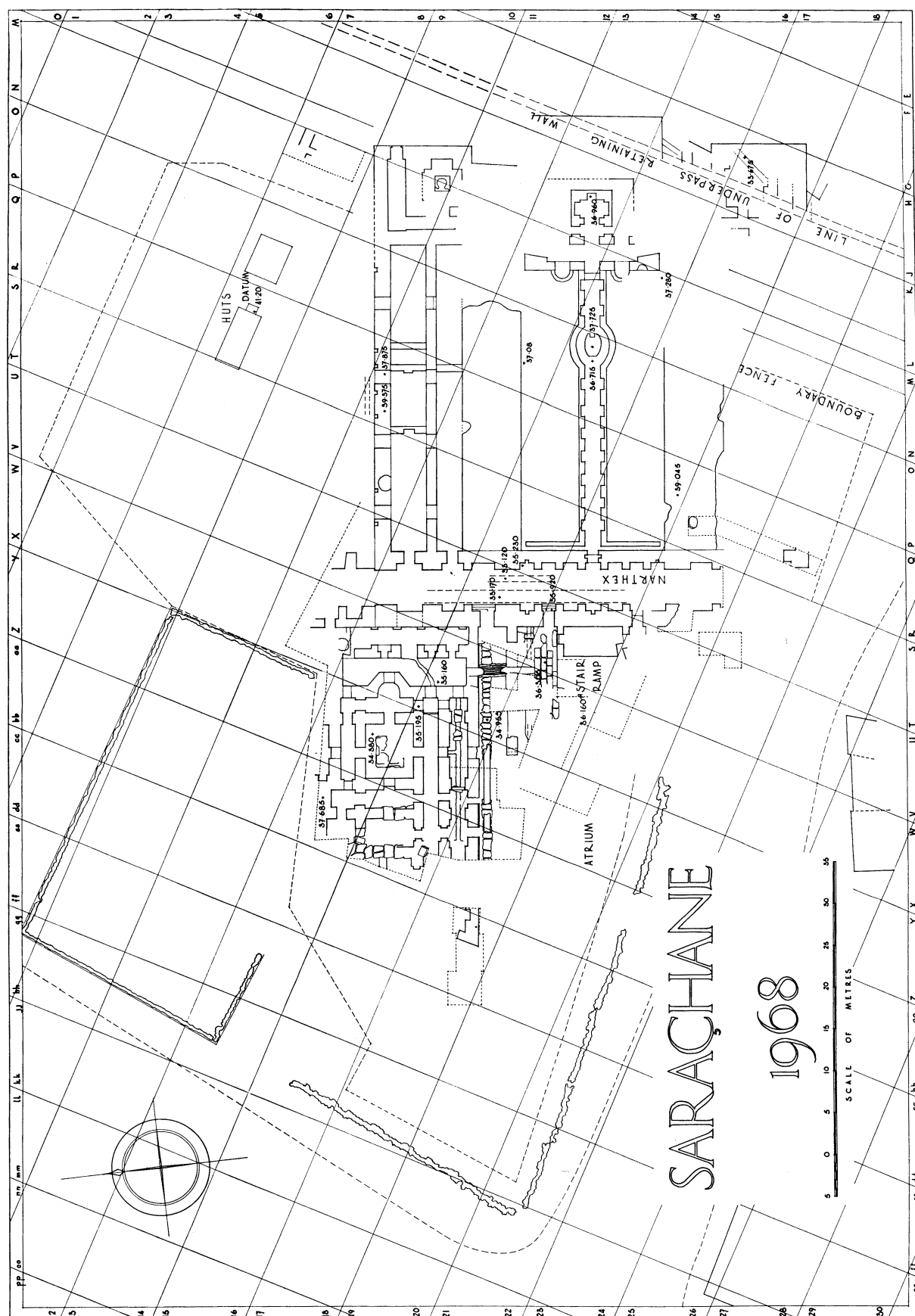
<sup>1</sup> This excavation is under the joint auspices of Dumbarton Oaks and the Istanbul Archaeological Museum. It is a pleasure to record our thanks to the Directorate General of Antiquities at Ankara and to the Municipal Authorities at Istanbul for the necessary permits and for their active encouragement. Our thanks too are again due to Mr. N. Dolunay, Director of the Istanbul Archaeological Museum, for his valuable help and for the many facilities of his technical departments; from the latter special mention must be made of the expert mending and restoring of pottery and marble by Mr. Mehmet Tunçdağ. Our staff, including students from Istanbul University, consisted of the following: Mr. E. Akyildiz, Miss S. Barutcu, Mr. S. Eriz, Dr. M. V. Gill (small finds and marble catalogues), Mrs. Harrison (photography), Dr. J. W. Hayes (pottery), Miss U. Izmiriligil (drawing), Mr. G. R. J. Lawson (surveying and drawing), Mr. S. Şişmanoğlu, Mr. J. Tait (excavation), Miss G. Uluğ, and Mr. M. J. Vickers (excavation). After the end of the campaign the human bones found during all five seasons were studied by Mr. D. R. Brothwell, with preliminary assistance in sorting and cleaning by Mrs. Vickers. It would be impossible to thank here individually the many visitors to the site, whose comments have been stimulating and helpful; but acknowledgment must be made to Mr. and Mrs. J. Morganstern for their contribution on the mosaics and pottery respectively. Finally, we record our deep sorrow at the death of Professor P. A. Underwood, whose wisdom and kindness did so much to promote the excavation at Saraçhane and to guide its progress throughout five seasons of work.

church and probed the narthex and atrium;<sup>2</sup> this year some further work was done in the north aisle, but our main objectives were the narthex, the atrium, and the area north of the atrium. Dual aims were to recover as much of the original plan as possible and to determine more closely the history of the site in subsequent centuries.

The excavation was, from its outset in 1964, planned as a rescue operation; digging has been fast, and the recovery and recording of evidence have necessarily far outstripped its study and evaluation. Further soundings will be profitable in the western part of the atrium, but the excavation of church and atrium may now be regarded as virtually complete. The area north of the church is undoubtedly an important one, but it will be preserved intact in public gardens. A comparison of the plan (fig. A) with two general photographs (figs. 1 and 2) gives an impression of the site at the end of this season.

Within the northern passage beneath the north aisle an underground depot has been constructed for the permanent storage of much of the Saraçhane material. Its length is 40 meters, and it is divided into twelve rooms, each with electric lighting and with shelves of reinforced concrete. In it have been installed

<sup>2</sup> For previous seasons, see our "First Preliminary Report," *Dumbarton Oaks Papers*, 19 (1965), p. 230ff., "Second and Third Preliminary Reports," *DOP*, 20 (1966), p. 223ff., and "Fourth Preliminary Report," *DOP*, 21 (1967), p. 273ff.



### A. General Plan of Church Excavation

the pottery, a type-series of stamped bricks, the glass, mosaic and painted plaster, animal bones and molluscs, and the smaller pieces of architectural sculpture. The small finds (mainly of bronze, ivory, and bone) have been transferred to the Archaeological Museum, as have the best pieces of sculpture, pottery, and architectural carving. The human skeletal material, which was studied by Mr. D. R. Brothwell (cf. p. 200 *infra*), is lodged with the Institute of Anthropology at Ankara. A monograph containing the definitive report of these five seasons of excavation is in preparation.<sup>2a</sup>

Plans for laying out the site as an Archaeological Park were drawn up by Mr. R. E. Griswold and have been accepted by the Istanbul Municipal Authorities; it is hoped that the landscaping work can be begun in the near future.

#### THE NORTH AISLE

The northern of the two barrel-vaulted passages beneath the north aisle was, as reported last year, divided into compartments by internal cross walls. The western sector, originally open to the narthex substructure by a doorway, had been accessible in the sixth century but was partly filled by a deep deposit of rubbish in the seventh (cf. pp. 203–216 *infra*). The central and eastern sectors were never accessible except by a window in the north wall of each; indeed, the central sector was never fully dug out during construction of the church and was found to contain walls earlier than the church. Examination of the eastern sector this year revealed a further cross wall toward its western end. This had acted as a retaining wall for a “shaft” of solid hard-packed earth; it separated the high-standing earth from the rest of this sector, which had been used as a Turkish cellar or fire-shelter (a staircase had been built through the Byzantine window) and which was filled with nineteenth-century debris above a floor of Turkish hexagonal tiles. This floor corresponded in level with the sixth-century floor in the

narthex and western sector, and the implication is that this eastern sector had been dug out in the sixth century and had remained inaccessible and empty. The shaft of solid earth contained by the two cross walls between this and the central sector is on the church’s north-south axis and may have been intended to counteract some lateral thrust. There are similar cross walls in the adjacent barrel-vaulted passage.

Clearance of the external face of the church’s north wall exposed five more (a total of seven) vertical slots for drainpipes which discharged into the deep drain flanking the church on this side. There are indications that these immured drainpipes were not part of the original plan, unlike those in the narthex.

#### THE NARTHEX

Most of the narthex substructure was excavated to its sixth-century plaster floor. This lies about one meter below that of the atrium, from which it was approached by four doorways with marble steps. Successive dark fills above this floor had been cut in the tenth century by two deep trenches, each of which carried a pair of terracotta drainpipes running north-south. Pockets of undisturbed seventh-century material were found in some of the lateral niches, and perhaps—this point is not certain—the doorway from the narthex substructure to the axial passage beneath the nave was already bricked up by then.

#### THE ATRIUM AND ADJACENT COMPLEX

The northern part of the atrium is relatively well preserved, and the large secondary cistern was found to lie outside the atrium and to incorporate substantial sixth-century walls.

The atrium pavement, at sixth-century ground level, had been located in 1967, together with the vaulted underpinning of a large axial staircase giving access from the atrium to the church’s central west door, which stood at a high level in the west façade.

Soundings beneath the level of the atrium pavement between the staircase and the cistern revealed the foundations of two earlier parallel east-west walls on the same alignment as that of the church. These two walls

<sup>2a</sup> The main program at Saraçhane has now been completed, apart from some complementary soundings. The final publication is planned to include chapters by Firath, Gill, Harrison, and Hayes.

were not contemporary with each other, and an approximate date for the earlier (south) wall is suggested by a small deposit of mid-fifth-century pottery found in association with it.

The atrium pavement originally overlay these foundations; the walls had been levelled. It surrounded the staircase and extended northward to the brick wall which later became the south wall of the cistern and which is in fact contemporary with the church. On the south side of the atrium a sounding in the area T/20-21 disclosed the badly robbed foundations of a similar wall; the width of the atrium was 26 meters (exactly half that of the church) and the staircase lay on its axis. The length of the atrium was not satisfactorily determined, but the northern wall terminates abruptly with an oblique end in cc/18, suggesting that the length of the atrium was nearly twice its width. Unfortunately, this western area has been considerably disturbed by deep nineteenth-century cellars, which have destroyed much of the earlier evidence.

At its east end the north wall of the atrium stands to a height of nearly three meters. North of this wall is another which is parallel to it, and together they form a narrow passage or *cryptoporticus*, evidently the substructure for a gallery overlooking the atrium. North of this passage is an apsidal building consisting of an oblong room surrounded by an ambulatory and preceded by a narthex (figs. 2 and 3). Four closely set brick piers (enclosing a cylindrical vertical shaft?) in the center of the oblong room enabled it to be roofed with cross vaults at the corners and with barrel vaults along the sides. There are indications that this ceiling was somewhat lower than that of the ambulatory. All these chambers are substructures, and associated with this building are high-standing walls continuing northward beyond the limits of our excavation.

That the church was in use in the first part of the tenth century is proved by references to it in the *Book of Ceremonies*. That it was abandoned by the early eleventh—perhaps even in the late tenth—is indicated by a deep layer of occupation debris (ash, animal bones, crushed potsherds, etc.) of this period immediately overlying the surviving

areas of the atrium pavement and extending into the vault beneath the central staircase and into the narthex substructure.<sup>3</sup> In the early twelfth century a very large pit was cut through this layer and through the marble pavement in the area WX/17, to extract stone from the more southern of the two pre-church walls (which must at some point have become visible); the date for this robbing is given by the pottery in the pit's fill.

It seems likely that this stone was used for the construction of the cistern, for shortly afterward (the sequence is given by stratigraphy, and there is nothing to suggest delay) the complex north of the atrium was converted into a cistern by the blocking of doorways, the insertion of piers of stone and brick at weak points in the sixth-century walls, and the internal application of thick waterproof plaster. Where brick was employed, alternate courses were recessed in a technique typical of the twelfth century. There was evidence, which is not yet fully understood, of a modification in the cistern's structure. The silt on the floor of the cistern was minimal, but in the northeastern sector a deep layer of loose black earth with fine domestic pottery (dated to the third quarter of the twelfth century, cf. p. 201 *infra*) suggests a date for the abandonment of the cistern and indicates wealthy occupation nearby.

The area of the atrium had at some date after the construction of the cistern been used as a cemetery. A large number of crude cist graves, aligned west-east, were excavated, and in many cases iron nails provided the outline of the coffin; a little pottery and a few small objects (e.g., small crosses of bronze, lead, and steatite) were found, but the latest datable material remains the group of coins of Isaac II (1185-95) reported last year. The cemetery was sealed by the deep destruction layer of the church, and excavation this year disclosed about thirty more courses of the brick pier found fallen in this layer last year; the mortar between the bricks was found to contain tiny sherds of *Late Roman C* ware and of cooking pots and

<sup>3</sup> This occupation layer, a black deposit immediately above the atrium pavement, is clearly visible in the "Fourth Preliminary Report," fig. 5.



amphorae of fifth- and sixth-century types, proving that this pier was part of the original structure.

Within the cistern the deep destruction layer was found to overlie large mixed groups of crushed human bones; Mr. Brothwell informs us that there is no evidence of slaughter, and probably they were dumped here when part of the cemetery was cleared. We assume at present that the cistern complex was destroyed at the same time as the church (i.e., about the year 1200). If, however, the fragment of an arch (published *infra*, fig. 5), which was found deep in the destruction layer of the cistern, should prove to be later than the twelfth century, this date for the destruction of the cistern would have to be revised.

#### DISCUSSION

A narrow atrium at ancient ground level, with one staircase leading up to the central west door of the church, is certain. Its northern wall is backed by substructures, and the approach to any northern door in the west façade of the church must have been at high level. Whether the small apsidal building in this area was a martyrium or a baptistery or served some other purpose is not known, but its superstructure must have dominated any approach to the church at this high level. St. Polyeuktos was a palatine church, and we know that Anicia Juliana's palace, which was an earlier building, stood nearby.<sup>4</sup> Although some fourth- and fifth-century buildings at Saraçhane followed a different alignment,<sup>5</sup> we have seen that two fifth-century walls in the area of the atrium, which were suppressed when the church was built, had lain on exactly the same alignment as that of the church. It may be supposed that the identical alignment of the church was determined by a substantial adjacent building (or buildings) which was not suppressed. An attractive hypothesis to explain the curious high-level approach to the church on the north side of the atrium is that the

palace lay on this side, with direct communication at *piano nobile* level from palace to church.

The abrupt oblique end of the church's north wall is puzzling. That it abutted an oblique cross wall seems the most likely explanation. Two possibilities—perhaps not the only ones—are that such a wall reflected an earlier alignment (either of street or building) to the west, or that it formed part of a deliberately planned polygonal west-end to the atrium. Against the former possibility is the fact that the rectangular base of the Column of Marcian, a short distance to the west, is on approximately the same alignment as that of the church.

#### ARCHITECTURAL CARVING

Pieces of architectural carving, all of Proconnesian marble, were again prolific. Two are selected for preliminary publication here: 1. *Basket-capital* (Ht. 0.59, lower diameter 0.42, abacus 0.86 m. square; fig. 4). The body of the capital is decorated with a diagonal lattice, framing in each square an eight-armed cross (i.e., two superimposed crosses) with delicately flaring arms. There is a large rectangular stud at each junction of the lattice and three small round ones on each lattice strip. The carving is deeply undercut, being attached to the core of the capital only at the centers of the crosses and the junctions of the lattice. The upper border, consisting of a formal interlace of opposed guilloche-like elements set with small flowers, is not undercut.

The capital was found in Z/17, in the mortary rubble destruction layer above the *cryptoporticus*, and it may perhaps have come from the upper storey of the complex north of the atrium. Its size is relatively small, and its proportions indicate that it was designed to be seen from close below; its intricacy and unweathered condition show that it was an interior capital. Multitudinous fragments of cross and lattice were found in this area in this and earlier seasons, but all are attributable to this one capital.

2. Fragment of an *arch* (l. 0.545, ht. 0.151, thickness 0.085 m.; fig. 5), decorated with dentils beneath an undulating stem which has a back-curling leaf in each curve. The leaves are three-lobed, and the first lobe, which

<sup>4</sup> Cf. C. Mango and I. Ševčenko, "Remains of the Church of St. Polyeuktos at Constantinople," *DOP*, 15 (1961), p. 243 f.

<sup>5</sup> Cf. "First Preliminary Report," p. 235; "Second and Third Preliminary Reports," pp. 223-5 and fig. A; "Fourth Preliminary Report," pp. 276-7.

curls back to touch the stem, is separated from the stem only by a drill hole. It was found in the destruction layer of the cistern, which had yielded several similar fragments in previous seasons. The carving is extremely formal and appears to be no earlier than the twelfth century. The arch may have belonged to the building which the cistern served.

In view of the inevitable delay in preparing the full publication of Saraçhane, it seems appropriate to include here two additional comments on material presented in our earlier reports:

(a) *Basket capital* found in 1967.<sup>6</sup> We drew attention to the close similarity between this and certain capitals in the west façade of San Marco at Venice. Professor F. W. Deichmann has kindly informed us, from records in the German Archaeological Institute at Rome, that the capitals at the north and south ends of San Marco's west façade are 0.69 and 0.66 m. high respectively. These measurements correspond very closely with that of the capital from St. Polyeuktos (ht. 0.695 m.) and support our suggestion that these capitals at Venice are *spolia* from Saraçhane.

(b) *Pier fragment* found in 1965.<sup>7</sup> Its width was, on the basis of the relationship of the rosettes to the fret border, tentatively restored as 0.88 m., but 1.10 m. seems now more likely. An additional element in the fret would require two more rosettes (i.e., a row of ten), and the restored width would then be two and a half times (not twice) the preserved width of 0.44 m. A width of 1.10 m. corresponds exactly with the base measurement of the date palm capital found nearby in 1967,<sup>8</sup> and it is probable that pier and capital go together.

#### SCULPTURE

Fragments were found in T/18 of three more panels of Proconnesian marble carved in relief with busts of apostles, similar to those found in 1966.<sup>9</sup> The four apostles then

<sup>6</sup> Cf. "Fourth Preliminary Report," p. 276 and fig. 14.

<sup>7</sup> Cf. "Second and Third Preliminary Reports," p. 228 and fig. 13.

<sup>8</sup> Cf. "Fourth Preliminary Report," p. 276 and fig. 13.

<sup>9</sup> Cf. "Second and Third Preliminary Reports," p. 235.

published were called for convenience A, B, C, and D. We attribute this series to the late sixth or seventh century:

1. Apostle E, frontal bust (head and neck missing), right hand touching codex which is held in left hand (preserved ht. 0.21, w. 0.415, total thickness 0.06 m.; fig. 10).

2. Apostle F, frontal bust, left hand holding staff with cross obliquely over left shoulder, right hand held up against chest with palm facing outward (ht. 0.37, preserved w. 0.34, thickness 0.06 m.; fig. 11).

3. Apostle G, left arm only of frontal bust preserved (ht. 0.215, w. 0.22, thickness 0.062 m.; fig. 12).

#### SMALL FINDS

The number of small objects recovered this year, including coins, was enormous. Many are insignificant scraps of bronze or bone which will acquire interest only when published all together; but some are sufficiently important in themselves to justify preliminary publication here:

1. A silver liturgical spoon (l. 0.14, thickness 0.001 m.; fig. 6), consisting of a large, shallow bowl and a small, flat, pear-shaped handle ending in a round knob. The front of the handle is decorated in niello with a cross encircled by a simple ivy rinceau, and the back of the bowl is covered by a faintly incised feathery leaf. The quatrefoil form of the rinceau, corresponding neatly with the four arms of the cross, is matched on two seventh-century silver plates at the Hermitage in Leningrad (cf. E. Cruickshank Dodd, *Byzantine Silver Stamps*, Dumbarton Oaks Studies, VII [Washington, D.C., 1961]), nos. 67 and 76, of Heraclius and Constans II respectively). Our spoon is probably Constantinopolitan work of the late sixth or first half of the seventh century; it was found in a later context in the narthex fill.

2. A small rectangular ivory panel, with the frontal bust of a nimbed bearded bishop within a plain raised frame (ht. 0.038, w. 0.033, thickness 0.005 m.; fig. 7). There are traces of gold leaf on the nimbus and the book. The frame is crudely pierced at the top by a bronze wire loop for suspension; its use as a pendant appears to be secondary, and perhaps the panel was from a casket. It was

found in the occupation layer immediately overlying the atrium pavement, and it can be assigned to the tenth century.

3. A lead seal (max. diam. 0.028 m.; figs. 8–9), found in a late context in Y/18–19. This was examined by Professor C. Mango, who kindly contributes the following note:

“Obv.: Bust of St. Theodore Stratelates holding a spear in his right hand and a shield in his left. Inscription: ΘΘΕ on left, ΟΔ .. on right; ‘Ο ἄ(γίος) Θεόδ[ωρος].

Rev.:

ΘΕΟΔΩΡ/	θεοδῶρ(ω)
ΑCΠΑΘ/ ΟΙ	(πρωτο)σπαθ(αρίω), οἱ-
.. NOM/ ΤΩΝ	[κο]νόμ(ω) τῶν
.. ΑΓ/ SAN	[εὐ]αγ(ῶν) (καὶ) ἀν-
... ΑΦ/ ΠΑ	[αγρ]αφ(εῖ) Πα-
ΦΛΑΓ/ ΤΩ	φλαγ(ονίας) τῶ
ΚΑΡ/ Μ/	Καρ(α)μ(άλλω)

Eleventh century. For the title οἰκονόμος τῶν εὐαγῶν οἰκῶν, first attested in 1044, see F. Dölger, *Beiträge zur Gesch. d. byzant. Finanzverwaltung* (1927), p. 40ff. For the title ἀναγραφεὺς, see *ibid.*, 82ff., 88 (list of known ἀναγραφεῖς); H. Glykatzī-Ahrweiler, ‘Recherches sur l’administration de l’Empire byzantin,’ *BCH*, LXXXIV (1960/1), p. 77. The restitution of the family name in line seven is hypothetical. For seals of members of the Karamallos family, see G. Schlumberger, *Sigillographie de l’Empire byzantin* (1884), p. 631f.; V. Laurent, *La collection C. Orghidan* (1952), no. 309.”

4. Within a single layer in the narthex fill, in the area T/17, were found four separate “stacked” groups of fused bronze coins, evidently the contents of four purses. While all these groups may not have been lost at the same period, at least the fourth group confirms the long currency of some coins: (i) 1 coin of Leo IV (775–80), 5 of Nicephorus I (802–11), and 12 of Leo V (813–20). (ii) 5 coins of Leo V. (iii) 4 coins of Leo V (one with oxidized remains of cloth, probably the purse lining). (iv) 1 coin of Nicephorus I, 2 of Leo V, and 1 of Romanus I (920–44).

#### HUMAN SKELETAL MATERIAL

The human bones, both from the twelfth-century cemetery and from the crushed groups in the cistern, were studied by Mr.

D. R. Brothwell, who has kindly provided the following interim note:

“The human skeletons from Saraçhane consisted of 237 trays of bones. This material was in a variable state of completeness and preservation, the majority of skeletons displaying quite considerable breakage. The biggest initial problem was in sorting, for in many cases ancient disturbance had resulted in the total mixing of human remains; some batches were found to represent only two or three individuals, others as many as twenty-four. The data obtained, which was considerable, will be analyzed in the laboratory of physical anthropology at the British Museum (Natural History), and the physical affinities of the Byzantine population, as exemplified at Saraçhane, will be studied in comparison with other groups from the Eastern Mediterranean area; both metrical and non-metrical (discontinuous) characters will be employed. Surprisingly little is known of the biology of the Byzantine population, and this late Byzantine group will be of considerable interest. A survey of the health of this community is also being prepared.

“The group appears to represent no less than 337 individuals, many in a very incomplete state. Of this sample, at least sixty-two were children, forty-four adults were male and forty were female. (These figures may need adjustment after further detailed study of the data). Many of the children are within the older age groups, and the relative lack of infants may either reflect adverse soil conditions and burial disturbances (resulting in the differential destruction of smaller bones) or cultural factors whereby some of the younger infants were excluded (as appears to have been the case in Roman Britain).

“Although a detailed scoring of dental morphological variation was not possible in the time available, some traits were recorded. In particular, the degree of incisor shoveling was noted, and it was surprising to find that even in the twelfth century this trait was well in evidence; this confirms the view that this morphological character is by no means restricted to mongoloid populations, and that early European communities displayed it in varying frequencies. A detailed report on the oral health of the group is in preparation. The nature of the material did not permit

detailed scoring of calculus deposits or alveolar bone loss, but it was possible to record caries, ante-mortem tooth loss, abscess formation, and degrees of dental attrition.

"Finally, detailed note was taken of other evidence of abnormality. The sample has produced what may be the earliest case of spinal tuberculosis so far recorded in Turkey, a severe case of scoliosis, and a number of instances of 'benign osteoma'. These and other abnormalities will be described in detail in the full report on Saraçhane."

#### THE POTTERY

Dr. J. W. Hayes again worked on the pottery, dividing his time between the large seventh-century deposit excavated last year (see Contribution, *infra*, pp. 203-216) and the new material. He reports briefly on the latter as follows:

"Two significant deposits of Byzantine date were found this year. The first comprises the material from the layers of fill in the narthex (below the final destruction layer) and from immediately over the preserved parts of the atrium pavement. These fills, which are all of the same period, produced a large quantity of white wares very similar to Stage IV of the Great Palace sequence,<sup>10</sup> together with a few pieces (not more than 1 to 2 per cent) of polychrome and B4a wares.<sup>11</sup> The white wares include a number of fairly complete large dishes and bowls with impressed and brown painted decoration, and an unusual impressed ware dish with a winged lion occupying the whole of the floor (figs. B and 15). The polychrome sherds, of which some of the best appear in figure 16, contain examples of three classes: (i) with green and yellow painted decoration with black outlines (the most common); (ii) with various patterns on a background of red dots; (iii) with black and white interlock patterns (rare). The group is probably to be placed at the end of the tenth century or early in the eleventh. A similar but perhaps earlier deposit was encountered in the vault under the central staircase. Among the pieces from here is a

particularly fine example of impressed ware decorated with a fishing scene rendered in classicizing style—a late example of a common Roman motif<sup>12</sup> (fig. 17).

"The second group of note comes from the dump of domestic debris thrown into the late cistern (area X/13) at some time prior to its destruction. It includes several well-preserved examples of Fine Sgraffito ware of mid-twelfth-century style, two well-preserved bowls of the local black and green painted style<sup>13</sup> (fig. 13), and a number of Persian imports. The most noteworthy of the latter is a fine dish of the *lakabi* class<sup>14</sup> decorated with a stylized animal motif—perhaps the first of its kind to have been noted in Istanbul (fig. 14). The group should be dated *ca.* 1150-1175.

"An interesting white ware jug with a red slip (fig. 18), which may be regarded as a predecessor of the series of Byzantine white wares,<sup>15</sup> was among the finds from the side niches of the narthex, where in places undisturbed levels of the seventh century were present above the sixth-century floor."

#### KEY TO ILLUSTRATED POTTERY

Fig. B. White ware vessels from Narthex fills (1:3)

1. BP. 166. Light yellow-green glaze (to edge of foot); brown painted and impressed decoration.
2. BP. 157. Light greenish glaze (to top of foot); brown painted and faint impressed decoration.
3. BP. 158. Light green glaze on inside (not on rim); brown painted loops and impressed decoration.
4. BP. 159. Light greenish yellow glaze on inside only; brown painted and impressed decoration.
5. BP. 113. Light yellow glaze on inside only; impressed decoration (= fig. 15).

<sup>12</sup> Cf. *ibid.*, pl. 22. 17-18, and *Ayasofya Müzesi Yılıhı*, 6 (1965), pp. 108-110, figs. 12-15, for other examples of the same motif on impressed ware.

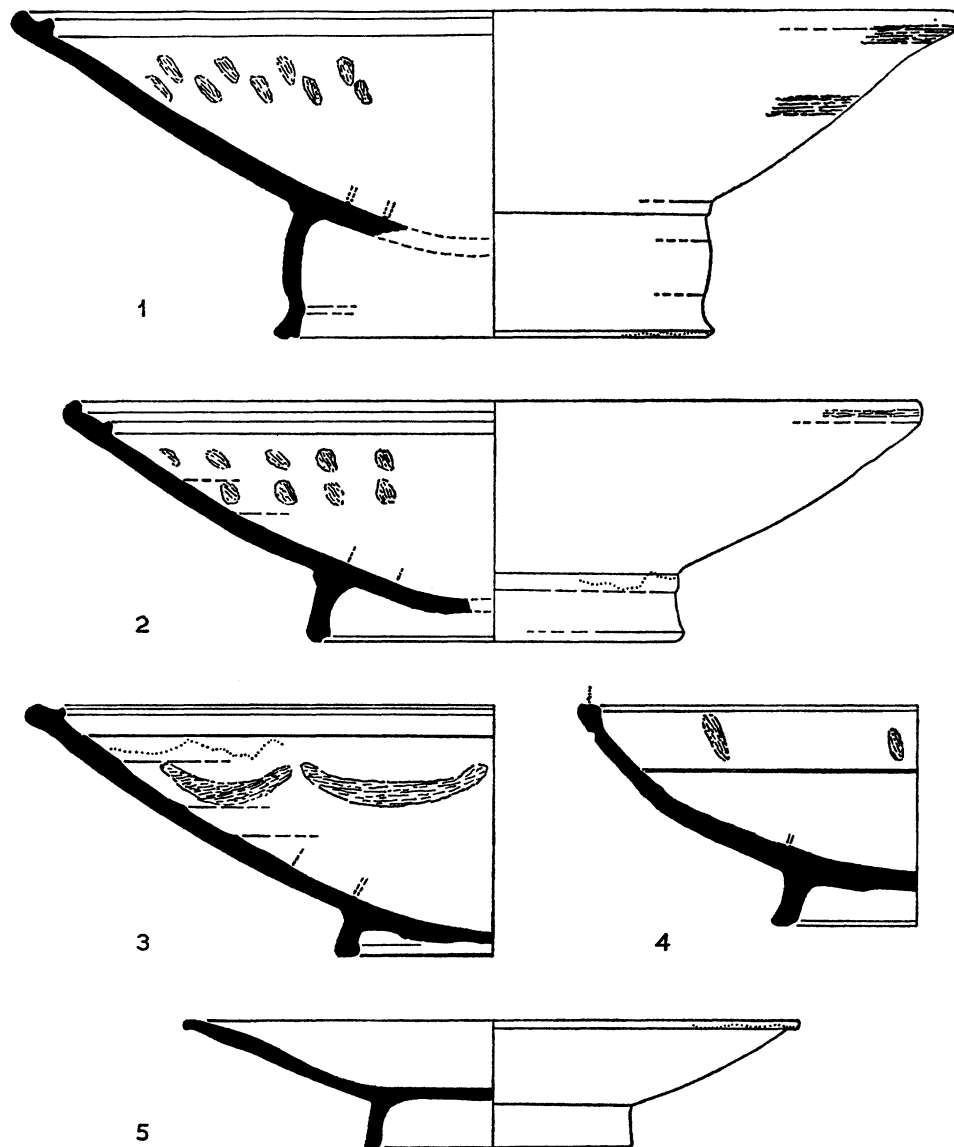
<sup>13</sup> In Stevenson's B4b ware.

<sup>14</sup> For this class, see A. Lane, *Early Islamic Pottery*, 4th ed. (London, 1958), p. 35, pls. B and 46-7.

<sup>15</sup> For further examples of this ware, see Contribution, *infra*, p. 208.

<sup>10</sup> Cf. R. B. K. Stevenson, in *The Great Palace of the Byzantine Emperors, First Report* (Oxford, 1947), pp. 33-60.

<sup>11</sup> According to Stevenson's classification, *op. cit.*



B. White Ware Vessels from Narthex Fills (1:3)

Photographs: figs. 13-18 (1:3)

13. Black and green painted dish. BP. 122.
14. Persian *lakabi* ware dish. BP. 145. Impressed decoration, with turquoise and deep blue paint additions.
15. Impressed ware dish. BP. 113 (= fig. B, 5).
16. Selected polychrome ware fragments.
17. Impressed ware dish. BP. 192. Yellow glaze (to edge of foot).
18. Color-coated white ware jug. RP. 83.

For figs. C-H and 19-21, see text of Contribution, *infra*.

R. Martin Harrison and  
Nezih Firatlı

#### A SEVENTH-CENTURY POTTERY GROUP

As noted briefly in the "Fourth Preliminary Report,"<sup>16</sup> a deep stratified fill comprising levels of seventh- to tenth-century date was encountered during the 1967 campaign in the western section of the northern of the two passages under the north aisle of the church (area STU/12-13 on site plan, fig. A *supra*). The lower levels of this fill (those immediately overlying the original earth floor of the passage) produced a very large group of pottery of seventh-century date, which has been studied in detail during the latest campaign. In view of the lack of published material of this period from Byzantine sites, and the information which this group provides on the beginnings of the typical Byzantine glazed wares, it has been decided to present the more important pieces from it here, in advance of the final report.

The deposit in question comprises a number of layers of dumped fill, all containing pottery in very large quantities. The finds are mostly very fragmentary, indicating that they are redumped material; their homogeneous nature and the occurrence of joins between pieces from various parts of the deposit tend to confirm this. I therefore intend to treat the whole of the material as a single group.

The coins<sup>17</sup> found together with the pieces listed below number about one hundred, mostly of the period *ca.* 500-650. The various issues were fairly evenly distributed throughout the deposit, the latest in all levels being

of Constans II.<sup>18</sup> They may be summarized as follows:<sup>19</sup>

Fifth century and earlier	3
Anastasius I	2
Justin I	14
Justinian I	9 + 3 uncertain
Justin II	5 + 3 "
Tiberius II	3 + 3 "
Maurice	1 + 1 "
Phocas	6 + 1 "
Heraclius	5 + 1 "
Constans II	7 + 1 "
Probably sixth century	13
Illegible	17
Total	98

On the basis of these, it would seem that the group as a whole is to be dated *ca.* 650-670.

The pottery itself, which comprises upward of fifty thousand fragments, includes examples of a wide range of Late Roman and Early Byzantine wares, including several hundred glazed sherds. These are presented below according to fabric, with brief notes on each category; some general comments are made at the end.

#### CATALOGUE

*Glazed Ware.* 580+ frs. (fig. C).

Light-colored ware, light brown, orange, or red, on occasions fired partly gray, slightly gritty; normally a slightly darker surface wash. Good lead glaze, normally finely pitted, but on occasions glassy and slightly crazed, usually covering inside only; the normal colors are dark and light olive-green (found with partially reduced firing), sepia, brown and orange-brown—i.e., mostly dark tones. Stevenson's A O ware.<sup>20</sup> Mostly closed shapes.

- 1, 2. Two(?)-handled jars with internally ledged rims and thick ribbed handles attached to rim; glaze on inside and on top of rim. Cf. GP, I, pl. 15. 5. (1 = BP. 127.) Similar: 80 rim frs. mostly of D. 10-15 cm.; 32 have

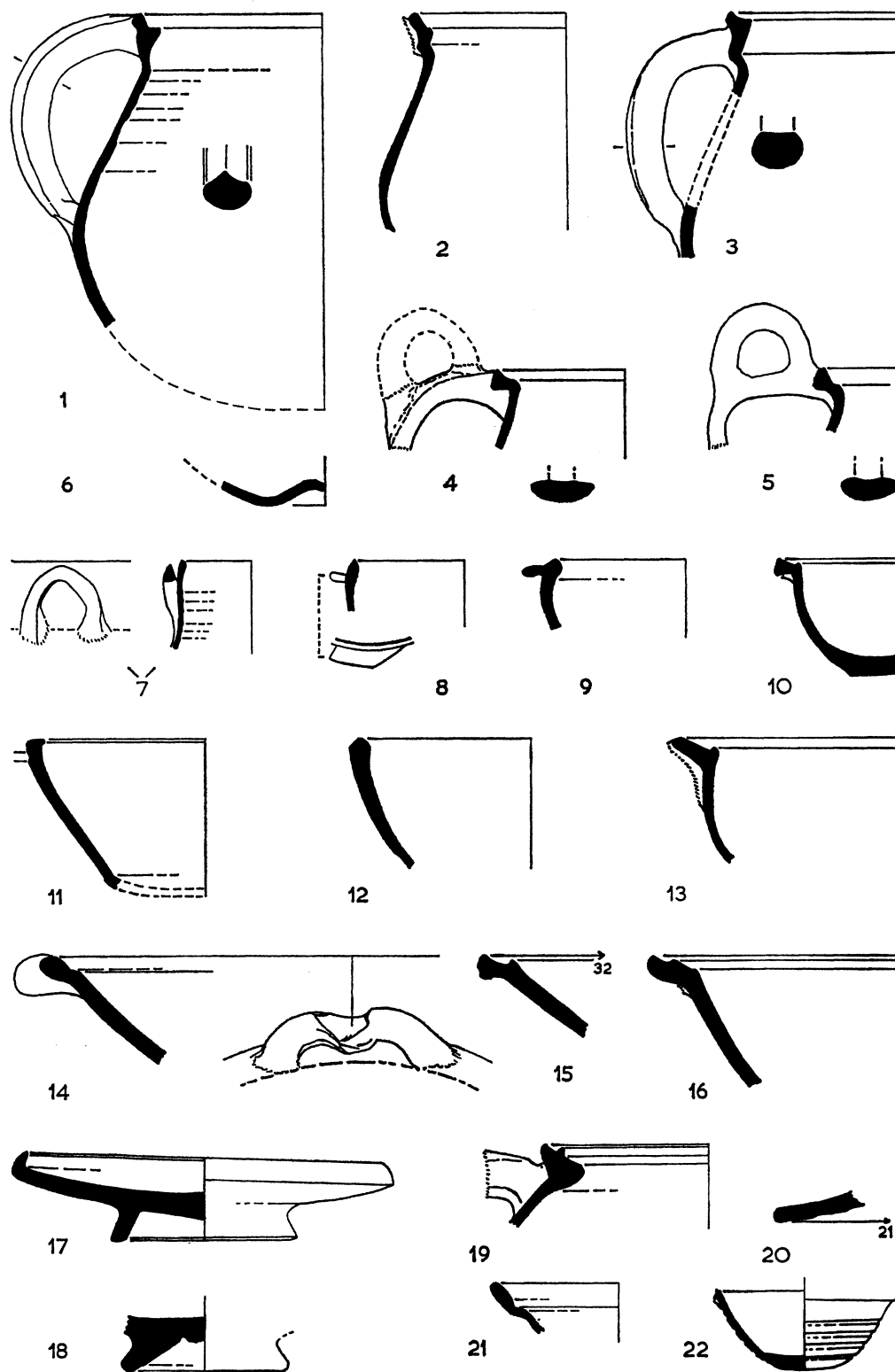
<sup>18</sup> Apart from three strays (Michael I, John II, and Turkish), which may be considered as intrusive.

<sup>19</sup> Full details of individual coins will appear in the final report (forthcoming).

<sup>20</sup> *Great Palace*, I (hereafter abbreviated to GP, I), p. 34. A very similar fabric appears in early Ottoman times; see "Second Preliminary Report," p. 230, ware I.

<sup>16</sup> DOP, 21 (1967), p. 278.

<sup>17</sup> For the identifications which follow I am much indebted to Professor R. M. Harrison.



C. Seventh-century Deposit, Nos. 1-22 (1:3)

parts of handles attached, 20 loose handles. Rounded bases, slightly flattened (probably from vessels of this form): 8 examples.

The form is probably to be restored with two handles in view of the high proportion of rim frs. with handles attached, though none of the examples present is sufficiently well preserved to prove it. For a probable lid, see 31 *infra*.

3. As 1, 2, but with handle of slightly flattened form attached below rim. One example similar.
- 4, 5. Spouted jugs with double handles; glaze on inside and rim. For the complete shape (in unglazed ware), see 26-29 *infra*. Similar: 16 rims, D. ca. 11-14 cm.; 3 have handle attached. 5 handles, 8 short spouts.
6. Jug base, rounded and hollowed, with "button" at center; glaze on inside. Presumably from a spouted jug as 4, 5; cf. 26 *infra*. One example similar.

From jars or jugs as 1-6: ca. 410 body sherds.

#### Open forms:

7. Small jar with handle applied to exterior. Glaze inside and over rim.
8. Small bowl with cut-away flange. Orange-brown glaze inside. Cf. GP, I, pl. 15. 31 (with ref. [p. 34] to similar example in Stage I).<sup>21</sup>
9. Small bowl with incurved rim and continuous flange. Drab greenish glaze, crazed, on inside and on flange.
10. Small flat-based bowl with short flattened rim; end of a horizontal(?) handle preserved under rim. Thick, crazed, brown glaze, tending to flake off, on inside and top of rim. One example similar.
11. Bowl with slightly thickened rim bearing groove on outside; rounded base. Glassy, crazed, sepia-black glaze on inside. Cf. GP, I, pls. 15.3, 21.5. Similar: 3 rims, with more or less pronounced groove on outside (no traces of handles).
12. Similar, with plain rim. Light red ware, rather gritty, brownish glaze on rim and inside.

<sup>21</sup> The bowl from the Yassi Ada wreck, *Archäologischer Anzeiger* (1962), col. 556, fig. 10, appears to be a more elaborate version of this form.

13. Bowl with flat rim bearing slight ledge along inner edge; end of a handle luted on to rim and wall. Larger version of 10? Glassy orange-brown glaze on inside, rim and handle.

14. Basin with outturned rim, bulging at lip; short horizontal handle attached to rim, pressed in at middle. Mottled orange-green glaze inside. Cf. GP, I, pl. 21.1. Similar: 3 rims.

15. Similar, with flat rim bearing mouldings along each edge; handle missing. Olive-green glaze inside. Similar: one rim.

16. Similar, with triple moulding on rim; end of a handle preserved under rim. Deep olive-green glaze on rim and inside. Similar: one rim.

17. Dish with short incurved rim, flat floor and foot of medium height. Near-complete. Rather poorly made, with thick walls and irregular foot, Orange-red clay, rather gritty, with thin reddish slip; thick crazed orange-brown glaze over inside and rim. (BP. 110.)

18. Dish base; heavy crude foot, roughly hollowed out on inside. Dull greenish glaze on floor. Incised decoration on floor, consisting of a number of irregular lines forming no clear pattern.

In addition to these, a number of frs. of dishes with incised decoration are recorded from the upper part of the fill. Since most of these have close affinities with pieces from the eighth-century deposit immediately above, they are perhaps best regarded as intrusions and are not listed here; some may, however, belong to the seventh-century group, along with 18, which is more securely stratified.

#### Coarse Glazed Ware. 30 frs.

Gritty red or brownish clay with fine white grit-temper; lead glaze on inside only, applied direct on body-clay. Glaze either thick and glassy, or thin and dull, with rough surface caused by the coarse body-clay. The fabric is similar to that of the unglazed cooking-pot series (see *infra*). For further examples of the ware, see GP, I, p. 34, pl. 15. 6-7.

19. Cooking-pot with short thick rim, ledged on inside; thick round-sectioned handle with slight ridges (perhaps twisted) applied to base of



rim. Brown glaze, thick on rim, thin on interior. Gritty clay, as that of 108, but oxydized. Cf. *GP*, I, pl. 15.6. Similar: 4 rims.

Not illustrated: 2 jug-rims as 4, 5 *supra*.

20. Lid. Brown glaze on top.

21, 22. Small bowls (probably both same form). 22 has edge of a handle preserved on underside of rim. Brown glaze inside and over rim. Similar: one base.

*"Mortaria" with Glaze on Floor.* 25 frs. (fig. D)

Fine-grained clean-breaking orange, pinkish or reddish clay, containing a few lime particles; in most cases a reddish slip on inside; good lead glaze, often glassy in appearance, splashed over floor. One basic shape: flat base, straight flaring sides, thick vertical rim with flange at bottom; small tongue-like "spout" formed by pressing down rim with thumb. Thick-walled.

23. High overhanging rim with small "spout." No slip; traces of worn greenish glaze on floor. Near-complete. (BP. 115.) No others of this type.

24. Vertical rim with heavy mouldings at top and bottom, and larger "spout." Maroon slip on inside; blackish glaze on floor. The normal type; several other rims similar.

In coarser ware:

25. Thickened vertical rim with groove on outside below lip. Coarse orange-brown clay with mixed temper and gold mica flakes; brown glaze visible on lower part of interior. One fr. in similar ware.

*Unglazed White Ware I.* 1000+ frs.

Unglazed version of the normal glazed ware (as *supra*). Clay off-white, pale brown, etc., sometimes reddish and partly gray on exterior; slight grits (quartz, etc.), virtually no mica. A thin slip of slightly darker color (generally light orange or brown) is normally present; on many examples a few accidental spots of glaze, similar to that of the standard glazed ware, are also visible. Forms: mostly spouted jugs and lids.

26-29. Spouted jugs with "double" handles. Body globular, with slight ridging and rounded hollowed base with "button" at center; short spout on shoulder, handle of flattened shape

with second smaller handle on top for attachment of lid. 26 (= BP. 111) complete except for upper parts; the frs. 27-29 supply the missing parts. Similar: 88 handles, 72 spouts, 20 loose rim frs., ca. 600 body frs. For the glazed version of this form, see 4-6 *supra*; for a similar spout, see *GP*, I, pl. 15.7 (with ref. p. 35 to the same type in normal glazed ware).

30. Small convex lid with horizontal loop-handle, belonging to a jug as 26-29; part of handle of jug attached. Similar: 40 lids, 45 loop-handles. Apparently used with both glazed and unglazed jugs.

31. Concave saucer-shaped lid with knob at center; rim marked off by a slight groove. Wheel-made, with wire-drawn base. One spot of glaze on top. Cf. *GP*, I, pl. 15.1. (BP. 193.) Similar: ca. 140 examples. Probably used as lid of glazed jars as 1-3.<sup>22</sup>

32. Shallow conical lid with central knob and horizontal loop-handle. Some glaze spots on underside. One example similar.

Not illustrated: some frs. of closed vessels of other shapes.

*Unglazed White Ware II.* Ca. 75 frs.

Clay white or pinkish (cf. the color-coated ware which follows), loaded with fine grits (mostly quartz, with some larger redparticles), but without mica.<sup>23</sup> Thin surface wash with satiny appearance; no traces of glaze. Used for large vessels only.

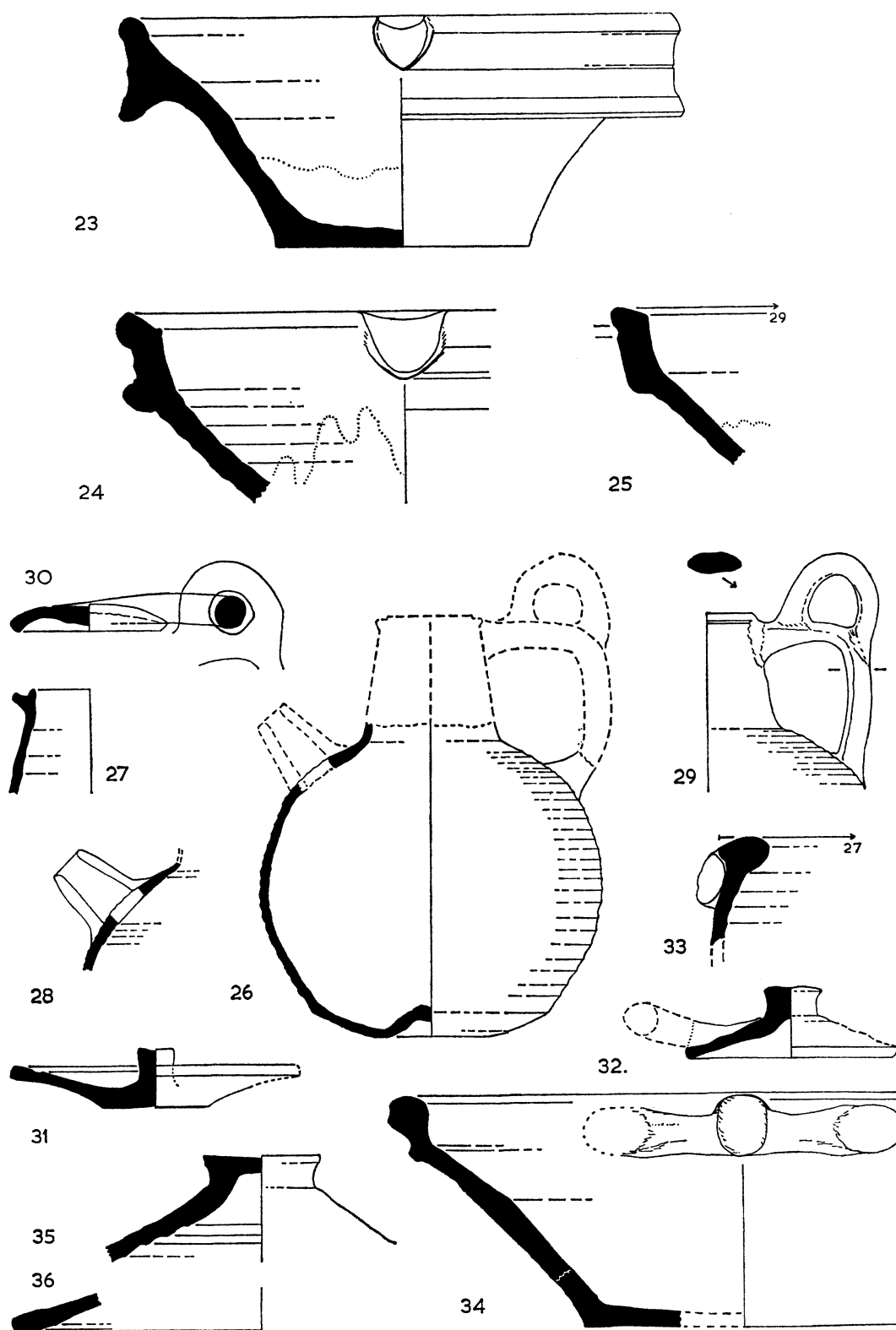
33. Large basin with thick round-topped rim, projecting on inside; horizontal ribbon-handle below rim. Similar: 20 examples.

34. Basin with vertical rim bearing double moulding on outside; horizontal handle attached to outside of rim, pressed in at center. Wire-drawn base. Large part preserved; profile restored from two frs. No other examples.

35, 36. Large lids of shallow conical form with knob, perhaps to go with basins as 33, 34. Similar: 7 frs.

<sup>22</sup> For a lid of similar shape used with a wide-mouthed spouted jug, see *ArchAnz* (1962), col. 556, fig. 14, from the Yassi Ada wreck.

<sup>23</sup> The unglazed white wares of the twelfth century are similar in appearance, but are highly micaceous and lack the red grits.



D. Seventh-century Deposit, Nos. 23-36 (1:3)

Not illustrated: 10+ frs. of large trefoil-mouthed jugs.  
20+ flat bases of large size, from either basins or jugs.

*Color-coated White Ware.* Ca. 940 frs. (fig. E). Clay white or pinkish, of fine texture with few impurities, generally softer than the preceding wares. Dull red, orange-brown, or black color-coating, depending on firing (often red and black on same vessel), not covering area round base or inside. Slight body-ridging normal. Forms: jugs.

37-39. Jugs with trefoil mouth; for the complete form, see fig. 18 *supra*. Similar: 145+ handles, 115+ rims, 145+ bases, over 500 body frs.

*African Red Slip Ware (= Late Roman B).*<sup>24</sup> Ca. 760 frs.

Common forms:

- 40. Plate, Form 105 (= Antioch 802). Similar: ca. 150 frs. Rims and feet vary slightly; some examples lack the flat chamfered band over the foot. Ca. 580-660+.
- 41-43. Dishes, Form 109 (Antioch 805x). The large size and near-continuous burnishing of the inside of 41 are unusual; 42, 43, with spiral line-burnishing on the interior, are more normal. Similar: ca. 210 frs., mostly as 42, 43. Ca. 580/600-650.
- 44, 45. Bowls, Form 99(C) (Antioch 878). Similar: ca. 220 frs. Most of these are as 44, 45, with small rims, low feet, and no decoration on the floor; only three frs. have stamped decoration; a few others bear two grooves on the floor. Mostly ca. 550-600+.

Other forms:

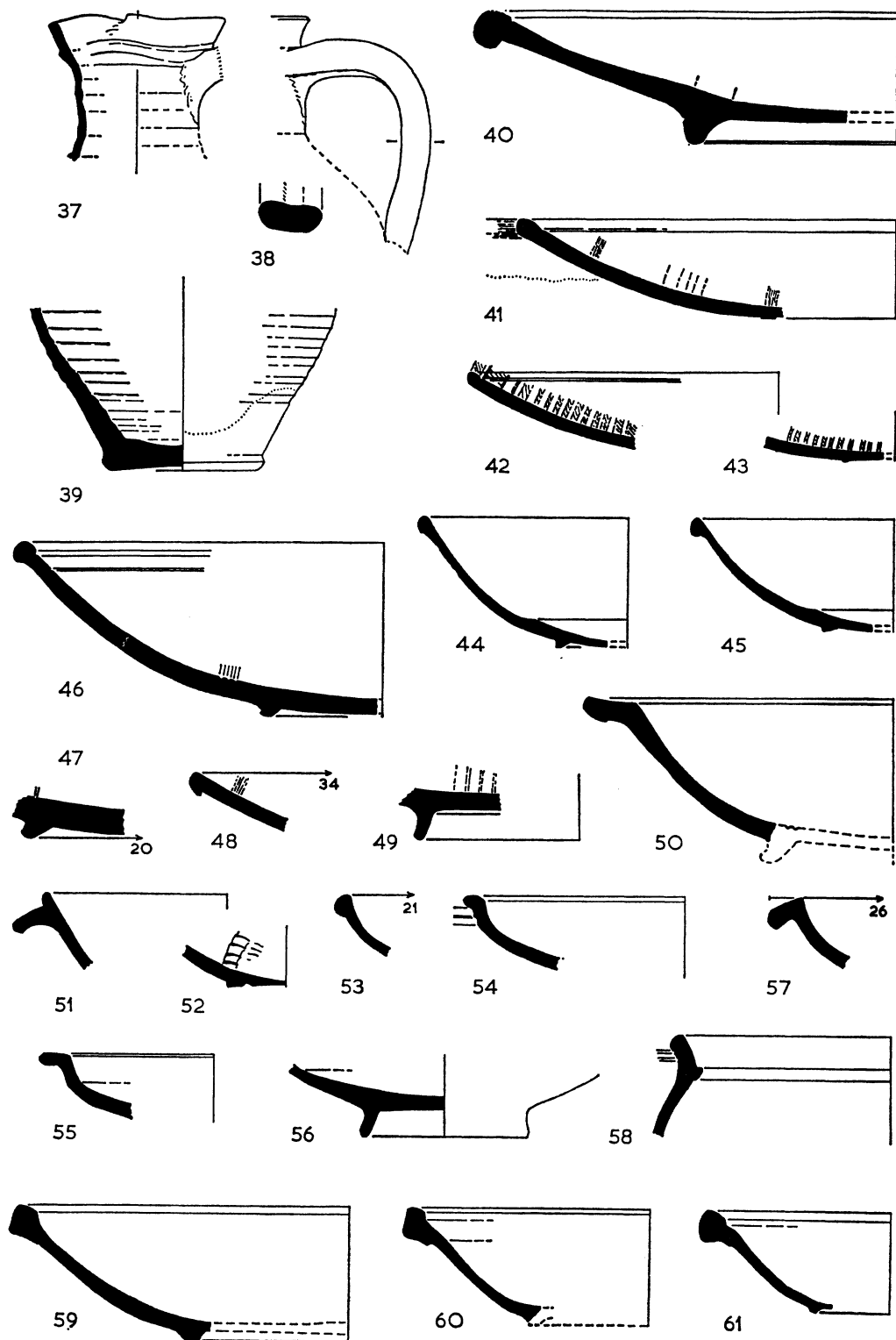
- 46. Bowl, Form 104C (Antioch 805u). Rather worn. Poorly stamped figure with staff in r.h. at center of floor. Ca. 560-600. (RP. 87.)

<sup>24</sup> For this ware and the "Late Roman" wares which follow, see F. O. Waagé, *Antioch-on-the-Orontes*, IV. i (Princeton, 1948), pp. 43-58, and my own work on the subject (forthcoming). The classification of the African wares is that adopted in the latter, with Waagé's type-series in parentheses; for the other wares, Waagé's numbering is indicated where parallels exist. The approximate date-range of each type is appended.

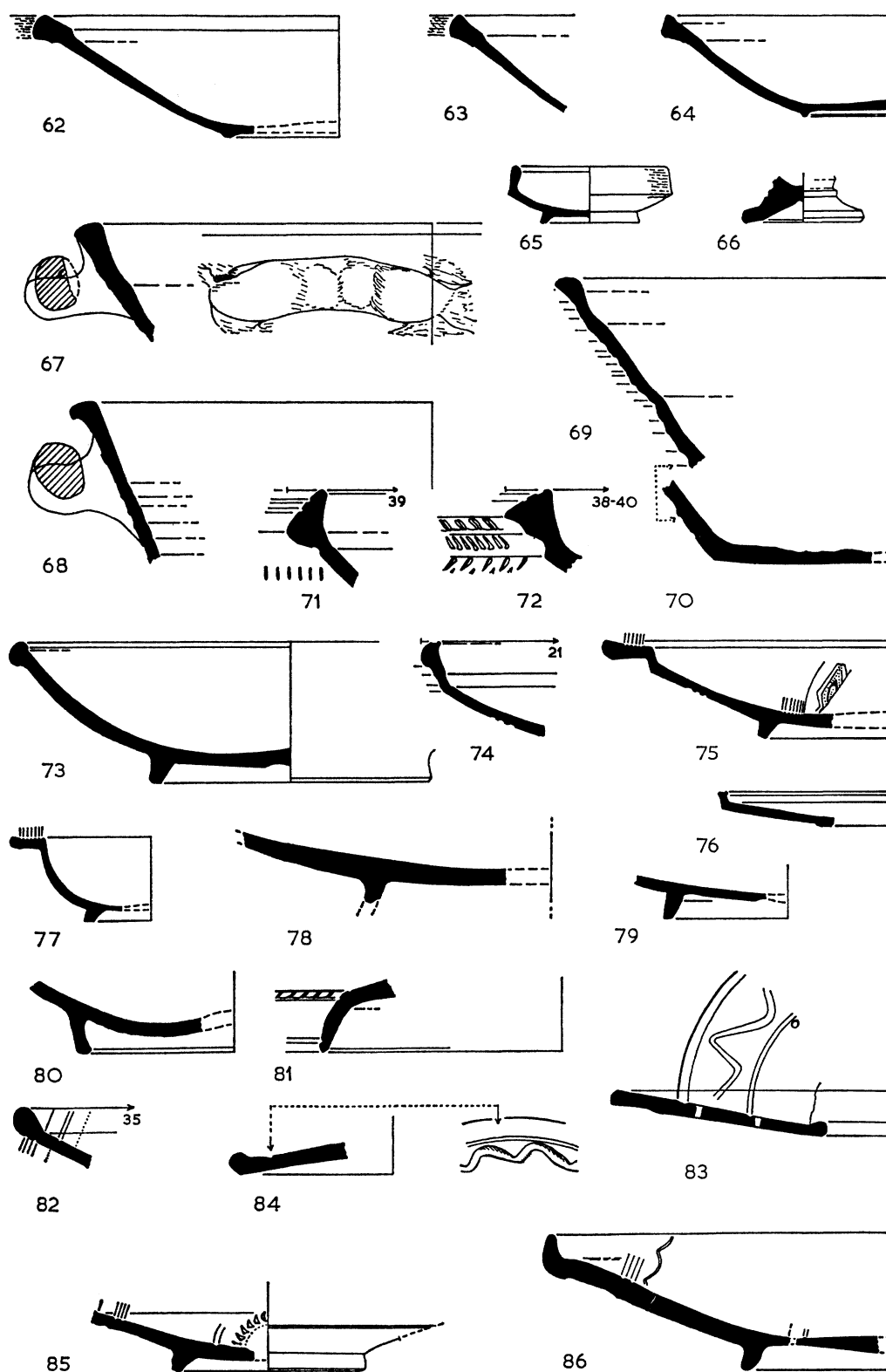
- 47. Foot of dish, Form 104B (cf. Antioch 805k). Part of stamped female head on floor, flanking a missing central motif. Ca. 560-600. As 46, 47: ca. 25-30 frs. of Form 104 (Antioch 803-805), mostly of the late variety represented by 46. A few are stamped.
  - 48. Plate, Form 106(?) (Antioch 801?). "Burnished" slip on inside and rim. Early-mid-seventh century? 7 other frs. of similar form.
  - 49. Foot of plate, perhaps same form as 48. Burnished bands on floor. A few frs. similar.
  - 50. Large bowl, Form 107 (Antioch 852p). Large fr.; rather worn. Ca. 580/600-650. Similar: 10 small frs., including bases.
  - 51, 52. Flanged bowls, Form 91 (Antioch 883). Similar: 8 frs. of various versions of the form.
  - 53, 54. Shallow bowls, Form 100 (Antioch 879). Late sixth-early seventh century. Similar: 6 frs. as 53 (including two of small size), one as 54. A few high feet may go with these.
  - 55. Shallow bowl, Form 108 (cf. Antioch 854). Late sixth-early seventh century? A few frs. similar.
  - 56. Bowl base, probably to go with 55. A few frs. similar.
  - 57. Bowl fr., Form 93A (Antioch 851). Survival piece.
  - 58. Bowl fr., Form 110 (cf. Antioch 886). Thick bright slip in and out.
- Not illustrated: a few sherds of earlier forms (late fifth-early sixth century).

*Late Roman C ware.* 1300+ frs. (figs. E, F).

- 59-64. Dishes/bowls, Antioch shapes 947 and 949. The standard shape in this deposit; ca. 660 rims similar, D. in range ca. 20-30 cm. Almost all of the frs. have heavy rims as 59-61 (= Antioch 947, 949a-k); flat elongated rims as 62-64 (= Antioch 949p-y) are relatively uncommon (only some 30 to 40 examples). Small versions of the form (D. ca. 10-15) are represented by a few frs. only. Mostly ca. 550-600/620; some later. Also: ca. 300 base frs., to go mostly with the dishes *supra*. Only 14 of these bear stamped decoration (mostly of late varieties).
- 65. Small dish with vertical rim, slightly incurved (unclassified). Similar:



E. Seventh-century Deposit, Nos. 37-61 (1:3)



F. Seventh-century Deposit, Nos. 62-86 (1:3)

several frs. Probably a late sixth-century form.

Other forms:

Ca. 50 rims of dishes/bowls as Antioch 940-946 (about half of small sizes); a few frs. as Antioch 913, 918, etc.; three high feet as Antioch LC 1-2. These are all survival pieces.

66. Small stemmed foot of bowl(?) (unclassified form). Possibly to be classed with the "local" red-slipped wares, though the fabric seems normal.

*Cypriot Red Slip Ware (= Late Roman D).*  
Ca. 160-180 frs.

- 67-70. Two-handled basins with straight sloping sides, bearing ridges, and slight rim-moulding; thick horizontal handles (pressed in at centers) under rim. Orange-red to salmon clay, orange-red to maroon slip on inside, with splashes on outside. The commonest type here: ca. 150 frs. similar.

71. Fr. of flat-based dish, Antioch 970. Clay orange-red, slip maroon, discolored on rim. Similar: one sherd.  
72. Fr. of rouletted basin (unclassified). Clay light brownish-red, slip dull brown.

A number of frs. of plain closed vessels may also belong to this ware.

*Light-colored Late Roman ware.* Ca. 70 frs.

Clay fine, clean-breaking, light orange or orange-brown (occasionally fired gray); slip orange or dull brownish; surface well smoothed on outside, fine brush-marks on inside. An Asia Minor fabric, possibly from the Knidos region,<sup>25</sup> not classified by Waagé.

73. Dish with knobbed rim. Undecorated. Nearly half preserved. (RP. 82.) Similar: 18 rims and several bases. Also 2 or 3 small examples.  
74. Dish with low wall and rolled rim; grooves under rim and on exterior. Similar: 3 or 4 frs.  
75. Dish with flat grooved rim; grooves on underside, stamped decoration on floor. About a quarter preserved. (RP. 89.) Similar: 1 or 2 frs.

<sup>25</sup> The ware seems very similar to that of early Roman lamps from Knidos, and a related series of relief wares, including the so-called "oinophoroi."

76. Small plate with upright rim. Undecorated. One fr. similar.

77. Small bowl with flat grooved rim. Similar: 1 or 2 frs.

Other forms:

A few frs., including closed shapes and a dish fr. with multiple rouletting as "First Preliminary Report," p. 235, fig. D, 10 (survival piece).

Decorated dishes:

78. Fig. 20. Large part of floor of a footed dish. Ware as *supra*. Figured decoration on floor, made by incising pattern through slip and scraping away background areas: large lion l., attacked from underneath by two dogs; shield of a hunter on r. The dog on r. is more or less at the center of the floor. Loose frs. show another dog and part of a human figure(?). Cf. *Antioch*, IV. i, p. 50, LB 16, fig. 35 (above bottom left); also "Fourth Preliminary Report," p. 278, fig. 23. (RP. 86.)

79. Dish fr. Decoration as on 78; an animal (deer?) preserved.

*Other Late Roman Wares (Imports)*

80. Fig. 21. Frs. of bowl. Pale orange clay with fine quartz and red grits; ivory-cream slip, fired orange on outside; painted motifs (cable-pattern and florals) on floor in purplish-black and orange-red. Upper Egyptian painted ware, Adams ware 13 ("Samian cream");<sup>26</sup> cf. *Antioch*, IV. i, p. 59, pl. XI, C 4. (RP. 74.) One base in similar fabric, undecorated.

81. Lid fr. Hard, gritty, dull brownish-red clay with some mica; deep red micaceous slip, burnished on outside, dull on inside. Coarse rouletting round top. Two repair-holes. Apparently Egyptian, Fayoum ware. (Possibly intrusive.)

<sup>26</sup> See W. Y. Adams, "An Introductory Classification of Christian Nubian Pottery," *Kush*, 10 (1962), pp. 245-88. Ware 13 (p. 273) is classed as an import from Egypt. The decoration of this piece corresponds to Adams' style (g) (pp. 252-3, figs. 15-17), for which a rather later date is suggested than is here possible.

82. Dish rim. Fine-grained, light brown clay, not very hard, with dull orange-brown paint band over rim (indicated on profile). Probably Central Greek painted ware; cf. the dish from Delphi, *Bulletin de correspondance hellénique*, 74 (1950), p. 327, fig. 29.
83. Five pieces of a flat lid with large hole at center. Two grooves on top enclosing a wavy groove; some small subsidiary holes (see profile). Fine-grained red clay, rather soft; dull micaceous red slip. Probably same ware as 82.
84. Lid fr. Wavy incised line close to rim. Fine-grained, cream-buff clay with fine mica; smooth satiny surfaces. An example of a fabric common in sixth-century contexts in Athens, and probably made there ("Justinianic ware"). Same ware: one jug-base.
85. Dish base. Grooves on floor; line of coarse rouletting round center. Soft, fine-grained, gray clay, loaded with fine silvery mica; traces of a slip. Macedonian(?); perhaps a late example of a gray fabric common in Saloniki in fourth- to fifth-century groups.<sup>27</sup>
86. Dish with heavy upturned rim. Two grooves and a wavy groove round floor; badly-preserved relief decoration at center (motifs uncertain). Clay similar to 85, rather soft; worn black slip on inside. About one-third preserved; profile restored from various frs. One rim similar.

*"Local" Red Slip Ware. Ca. 400 frs. (fig. G).*

Fine, clean-breaking, reddish or pinkish clay, similar in texture to Cypriot Red Slip Ware, with orange-red, red, or maroon slip, glossy on inside (often with a metallic luster), thinner and duller on outside; exterior finish mostly poorer than interior, with turning-marks and scratches. An unclassified ware, perhaps of local or Black Sea origin;<sup>28</sup> it does not occur on Aegean sites.

<sup>27</sup> A possible alternative source, on grounds of fabric, is the Ephesos region.

<sup>28</sup> A very similar red-slip ware is current on Black Sea sites in early Roman times; this constitutes most of Knipovich's classes D and E (T. Knipowitsch, *Materialien zur römisch-germanischen Keramik*, 4 [Frankfurt a. M., 1929], pp. 29-44).

- 87, 88. Dishes with sloping floor and slightly thickened or rolled rim, sometimes defined by a groove. (87 = RP. 45.) The commonest form: ca. 140 rims similar. A few of these, in a softer ware with thickish red slip, may form a separate class.

- 89, 90. Similar, smaller. Similar: ca. 20 rims.

Also:

50+ bases and 70+ body frs. from similar dishes.

91. Variant, with curved body and plain rim.
92. Poorer version of 87, 88 with flat, slightly hollowed base. Dull red slip with brush-marks on inside, scratches on outside. Could be a variant of Late Roman C ware.
93. Plate with separate compartment at center, surrounded by a high collar; rim rolled. (RP. 75.) The purpose of this shape is uncertain.
- 94, 95. Bowls with thickened rim. 95 may be a copy of African pieces as 44, 45 *supra*. Similar: ca. 20 rims (some in rather poor soft fabric).
- 96, 97. Small, steep-sided bowls with flat bases and plain rims. (96 = RP. 77.) Similar: ca. 40 rims.
- 98, 99. Variants of the preceding. (99 = RP. 47.) A few frs. similar.

A few sherds of other forms (including closed types) are also present.

*Mica-dusted Ware. Ca. 90 frs.*

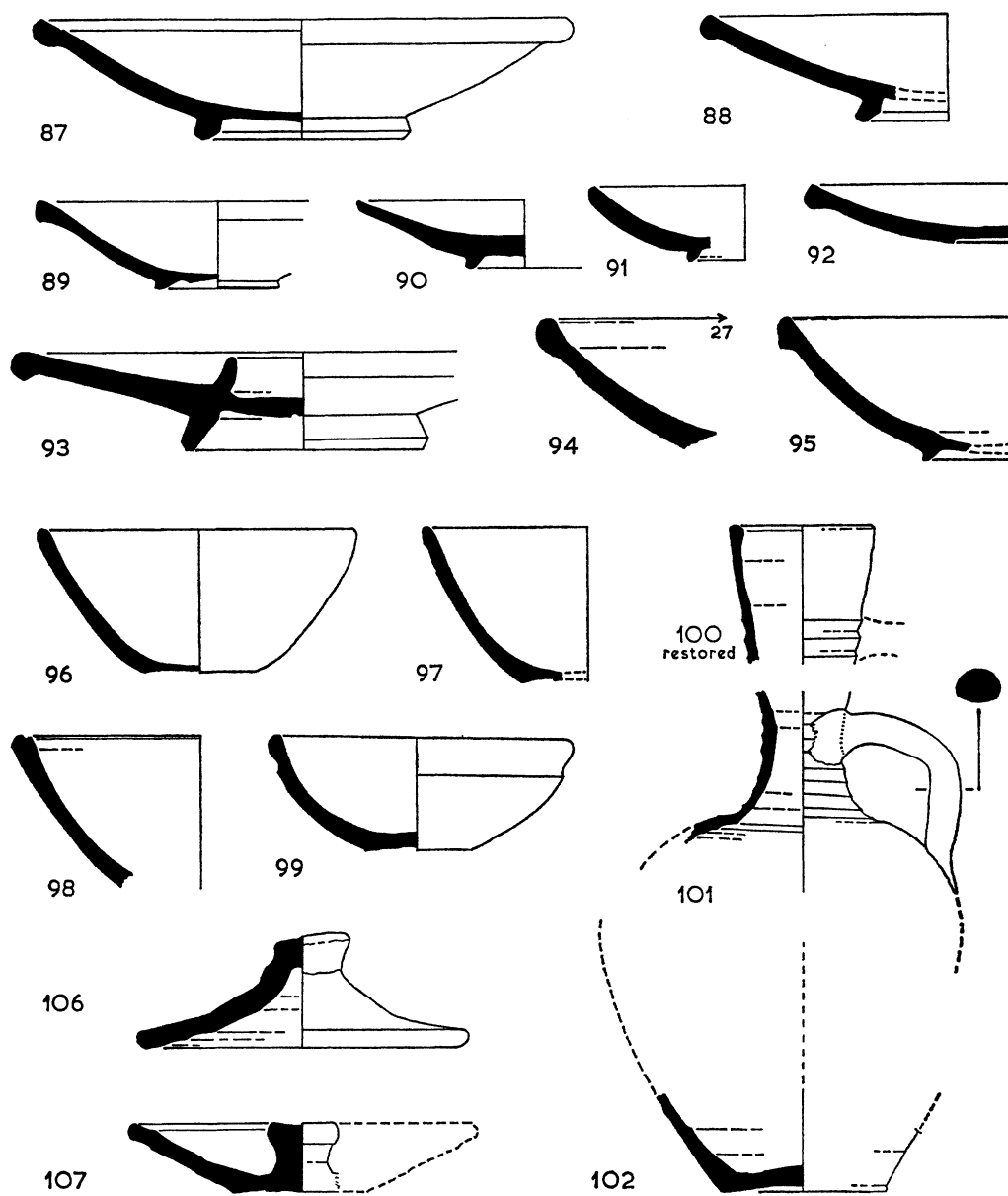
Fine-grained, hard, light orange or light brown clay, frequently with gray core; a few fine quartz and lime particles, and (in some cases) traces of gold mica. Gold mica-dusting on exterior surfaces.<sup>29</sup>

- 100-102. Jugs with tall narrow necks bearing ridges, short round handles and flat bases. Est. H. ca. 20 cm. or a little more. All the frs. of this ware appear to belong to this form, apart from one possible lid fr.

*Unguentaria. Ca. 400 frs.*

Almost all are of a class of small spindly flasks of Eastern origin which I term "Late

<sup>29</sup> A ware with similar mica-dusting is common in Istanbul in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries (see "Second Preliminary Report," p. 230, ware III), but this is distinguished by a micaceous deep brown body-clay.



G. Seventh-century Deposit, Nos. 87-102, 106, 107 (1:3)



Roman Unguentaria."<sup>30</sup> These appear to have had some religious function, and to have served as containers for holy water, oil, or the like. Fine, hard, clean-breaking clay, orange, red, brown, or gray, with a thin slip of similar color over the upper parts. Frequently a small stamp above the base.

103-105. Fig. 19 (not drawn). Three near-complete examples (RP. 34, 36, 84). The form of the mouth is tubular, marked off below by a slight ridge (visible on RP. 36). Similar: *ca.* 380 frs., including 20 stamped bases and about 45 without stamps.<sup>31</sup>

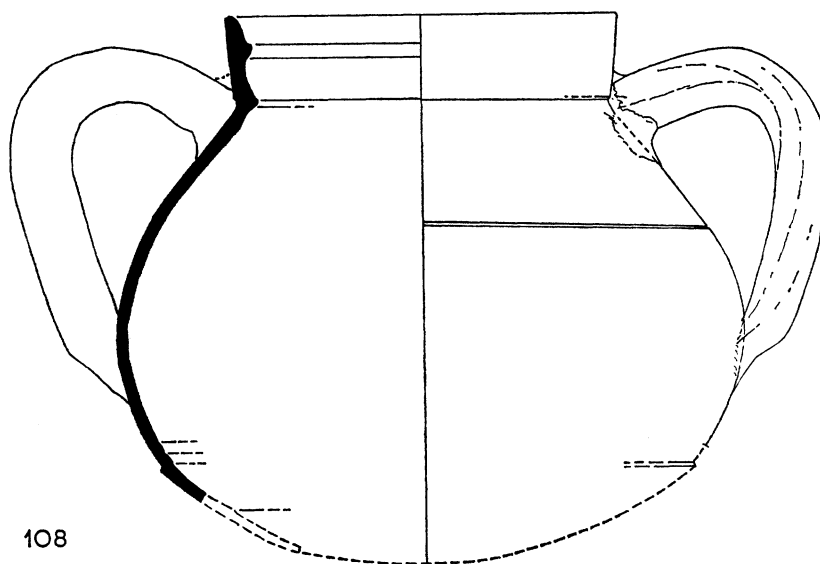
107. Lid, similar to 31 *supra*, but in coarser ware. One spot of glaze on underside. A few frs. similar.

Also:

*Ca.* 50 rims of basins similar to 33 and 34 *supra*.

*Cooking-pots.* 4500+ frs. (fig. H)

The normal fabric is an intense gray ware of gritty texture, containing dark grits and fine lime particles, but almost free of mica. A fairly wide range of forms is present,<sup>32</sup> but one predominates:



H. Seventh-century Deposit, No. 108 (1:3)

In addition to these, there are a few frs. of unguentaria in a highly micaceous brown ware, apparently of the same type as H. S. Robinson, *Athenian Agora*, V (Princeton, 1959), group M 369.

*Plain coarse ware.* 400+ frs.

Clay brick-red, with various grits, including lime and red particles. Used mostly for lids and basins.

106. Lid. Shallow conical shape, wheel-made, with roughly formed knob. The normal lid-form; *ca.* 250 frs. similar.

<sup>30</sup> See forthcoming article.

<sup>31</sup> RP. 34 and 36 are stamped, RP. 84 is not stamped.

108. Broad-bellied, with rounded base and collar-like rim bearing a prominent ledge on the inside; slight ridge where wall meets base; two heavy round-sectioned handles, slightly twisted, from base of rim to belly. Near-complete. Cf. *Histria*, I (Bucharest), p. 462, fig. 393. (RP. 76.) Similar: *ca.* 560 rims, *ca.* 580 handles.

#### *Amphoras*

About five-sixths of the total material from the deposit is composed of fragments of amphoras. It has not proved possible to reconstruct any complete examples. The contents of two sample crates (each containing

<sup>32</sup> These will be published in detail in the final report.

some 2000 sherds) were counted, giving the following proportions (based on number of sherds):

	Crate 1	Crate 2
Amphoras	81½%	85%
Fine wares (glazed, white, Late Roman)	10½%	7%
Cooking-pots, coarse	7%	7%
Lamps	1%	1%

Among the mass of amphora frs., the following types may be distinguished:

- 1) Ballana type 6 = British B (ii)<sup>33</sup> — ca. 15% (of total amphora frs.)
- 2) Ballana type 13 = British B (iv) — ca. 5%.<sup>34</sup>
- 3) Wavy grooved<sup>35</sup> = British B (i) — ca. 2–3%.

In small numbers only:

- 4) various Palestinian types with ring-handles on the shoulders, in cream and brown fabrics (about 3 per cent in all).
- 5) bag-shaped amphoras with collar-like mouths and ring-handles on the shoulder (as on 4), decorated with fine body-ridging combined with vertical white paint stripes or zigzags. The clay of these is gray and rather fine, with some lumps of lime; walls are markedly thin. A common Palestinian class of the seventh to eighth centuries: Kh. al-Mafjar ware 1, Nessana ware XVII.<sup>36</sup>
- 6) spindly amphoras in coarse micaceous brown ware. Egyptian.<sup>37</sup>

<sup>33</sup> For Ballana type-series, see W. B. Emery and L. P. Kirwan, *The Royal Tombs of Ballana and Qustul* (Cairo, 1938), pl. 111ff. The British series is that commonly used on Celtic sites in Britain, following C. A. R. Radford, in *Dark-age Britain: Studies presented to E. T. Leeds* ... (London, 1956), pp. 59–70.

<sup>34</sup> Sherds small; in terms of vessels represented nearer 2 to 3 per cent.

<sup>35</sup> For type-specimens, see (among others) *Histria*, I, p. 455, fig. 383; I. Barnea, *Dacia* (N.S.), 10 (1966), pp. 244, 254, figs. 5.7, 8.7, 12.7; *BCH*, 89 (1965), p. 947, figs. 22–23.

<sup>36</sup> *Quarterly of the Department of Antiquities in Palestine*, 10 (1944), p. 66, fig. 3.1–3, etc., pl. XIX, 1–2 (Khirbat al-Mafjar); *Excavations at Nessana*, Colt Arch. Expedition, 1 (London, 1962), p. 280. Cf. also P. Delougaz and R. C. Haines, *A Byzantine Church at Khirbat al-Karak* (Chicago, 1960), p. 34, with bibliography cited, and pls. 35.1–5, 55.1–3.

<sup>37</sup> For the type, see J. E. Quibell, *Excavations at Saqqara*, IV (Cairo, 1912), pl. XLVIII, 1, top row; H. E. Winlock and W. E. Crum, *The*

7) small carrot-shaped amphoras, as *ArchAnz* (1962), col. 556, fig. 12.

8) broad-bellied types with fine, close-spaced grooving, normally arranged in groups.<sup>38</sup> Not more than 1 per cent of total.

A few observations of a general nature may be made on the above material.

I. The general date-range of the pottery finds, inasmuch as individual pieces are datable, would seem to be ca. 550–650+. Very few of the pieces are of types already current in the construction levels of the church (524–7).

II. Within this general range, the majority of the pieces of “Late Roman” type would appear to date from the second half of the sixth century or, at latest, the earliest years of the seventh. Particularly noticeable is the relative lack of purely late forms such as the African Form 107 (Antioch 852p), and the more developed versions of the Late Roman C form Antioch 949 (i.e., 949p–y), which are common on seventh-century sites elsewhere. In contrast, the sixth-century Form 99 (Antioch 878) is amply represented in a late version, and the late sixth-early seventh-century Antioch 949a–k is common. The position of the African dishes of Form 109 (Antioch 805x) is rather uncertain; as far as I know it does not occur in sixth-century contexts elsewhere. These factors would tend to indicate that the group consists very largely of late sixth-century survival pieces, which seems borne out by the heavy preponderance of sixth-century coins over those of the seventh. An alternative possibility is, however, that the wares in question were no longer imported in any great quantity after the early years of the seventh century.

III. A new category of Late Roman red slip ware, of non-Mediterranean and possibly

*Monastery of Epiphanius at Thebes*, I (New York, 1926), pp. 78–79, pl. xxviii (especially 1–2, 11); W. M. F. Petrie, *Ehnasya*, 1904 (London, 1905), pl. xxxiv, no. 137.

<sup>38</sup> Characteristic of a large class of seventh- to eighth-century date, in more than one fabric. For a complete example, with continuous grooving, see *ArchAnz* (1962), cols. 552–3, fig. 6.a. The grouped grooving of most examples is noted by Ch. Thomas in *Medieval Archaeology*, 3 (1959), p. 93, in connection with finds from Dinas Powis (Wales), with reference to similar pieces from the Great Palace excavations. Pieces with this kind of decoration are more common at Saraçhane in eighth-century contexts.

local origin, has been identified. Whether this supersedes the standard Late Roman wares on the local market or is contemporaneous has yet to be determined; it does not, however, seem to be present in sixth-century levels on the site.

IV. The presence of glazed pottery in appreciable quantities in a group of *ca.* A.D. 650–670 is of considerable interest. Evidence for the existence of glazed wares in the Byzantine world at this period is minimal; no parallels can be cited earlier than about the middle of the seventh century.<sup>39</sup> Yet the varied nature of the pieces from this group and the good quality of their glazes attest a flourishing industry in Constantinople at this time. Presumably the examples listed above

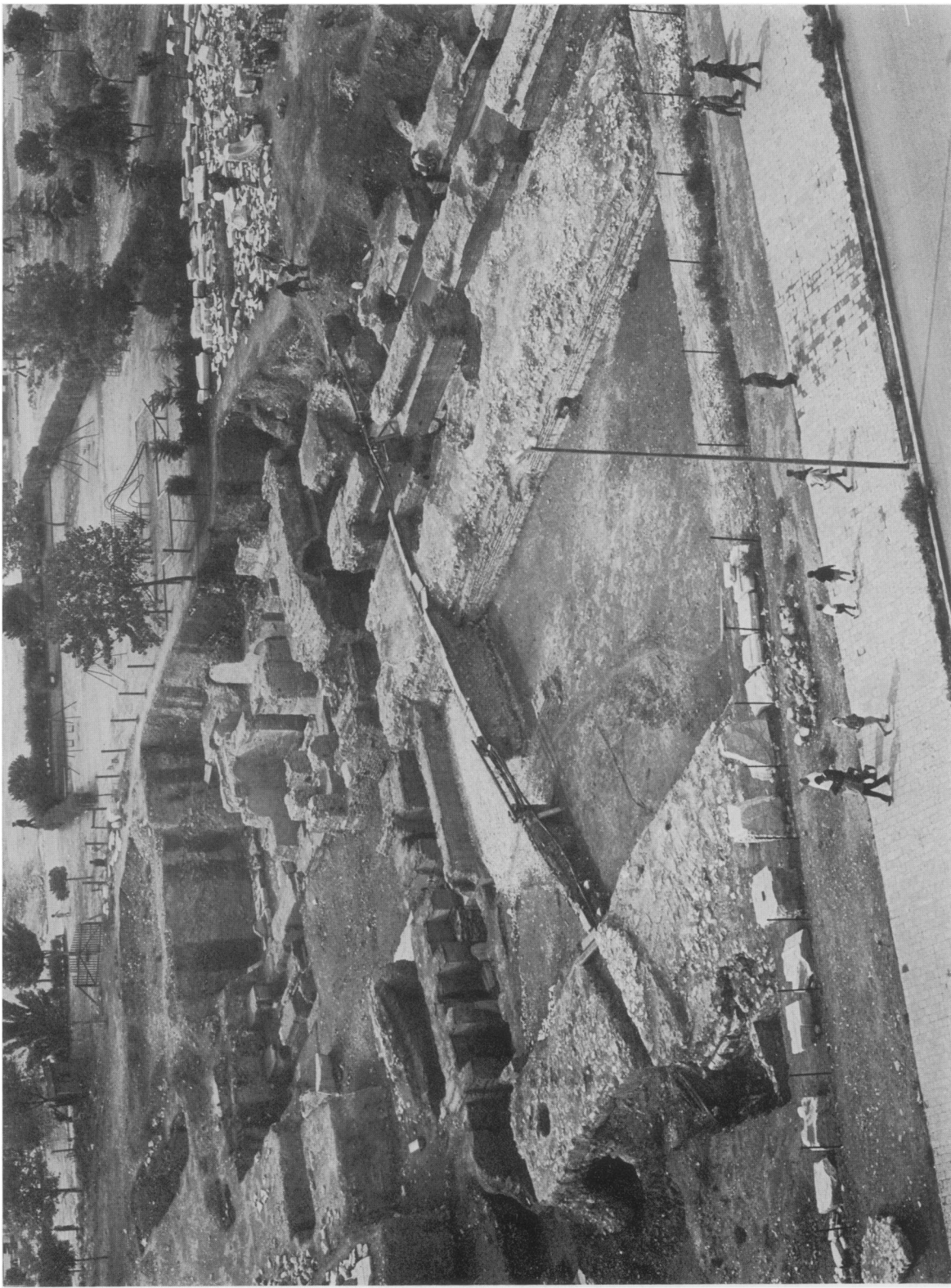
<sup>39</sup> The only published parallel is the Yassi Ada bowl (see note 21 *supra*); there are also a few frs. from recent excavations at Tocra, Cyrenaica (unpublished). Glazed wares are not present in sixth- and early seventh-century groups in the Athenian Agora and elsewhere around the Aegean. The so-called sixth-century fr. from Hagia Sophia published by Deichmann, *ArchAnz* (1941), col. 72 ff., is suspect; it appears to belong to the well-known series of ninth- to eleventh-century impressed wares (cf. *GP*, I, pl. 15.41, and *Materialy i issledovaniia po arkheologii SSSR*, 63 (1959), p. 338, no. 20, pl. 11). For the most recent discussion of the origins of mediaeval glazed wares, see D. Whitehouse, *Papers of the British School at Rome*, 35 (1967), pp. 42–48.

are among the later pieces from the deposit; some may, however, go back to the early years of the seventh century (though hardly earlier).<sup>40</sup> I suggest a date around or slightly after A.D. 600 for the initial appearance of the ware. If this is the case, it would make Constantinople one of the earliest centers that manufactured mediaeval-type glazed pottery. V. The appearance of spots of glaze on the unglazed white ware of group I and on some of the lamps proves that they come from the same factories as the glazed wares. The white wares of group II, which lack this feature, should be from a different source, perhaps that which produced the color-coated jug series. Both groups may be presumed to be local products.

In conclusion, one may stress the importance of this group, with its ample dating evidence, for the study of the origins of mediaeval glazed pottery in the Byzantine world and beyond, and for the transition from the Late Roman wares which preceded it. The group also provides evidence of the wide range of wares that circulated in Constantinople in the sixth and seventh centuries.

*John W. Hayes*

<sup>40</sup> Glazed frs. do not occur in the sixth-century levels at Saraçhane, with the possible exception of a "mortarium" fr. from a late sixth-century group.



1. General View of Church Excavation, looking Northwest from Roof of City Hall

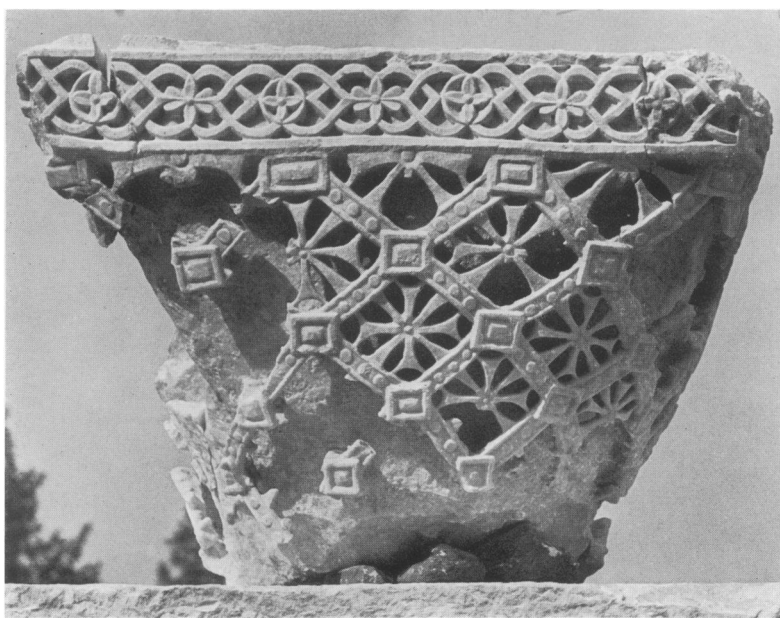


2. Complex North of Atrium, looking Southeast



3. Central Room of Apsidal Building, looking North





4. Capital



5. Fragment of Arch



6. Silver Spoon (1:2)



7. Ivory Panel (1:1)



8. Lead Seal, Obverse (1:1)



9. Lead Seal, Reverse (1:1)



10. Apostle E



11. Apostle F



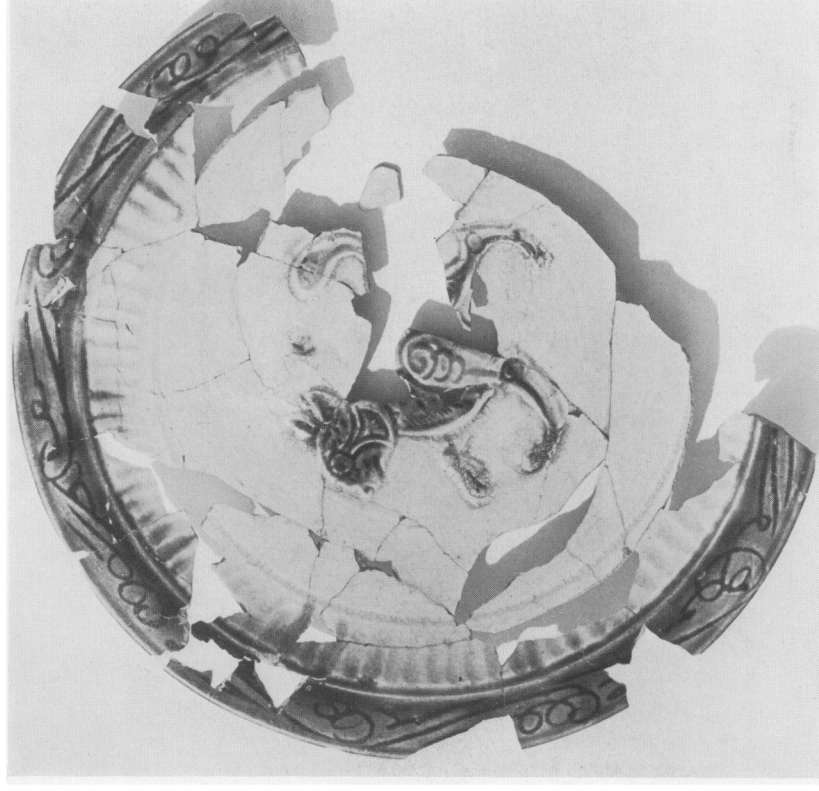
12. Apostle G



13. Painted Dish, BP. 122 (1:3)

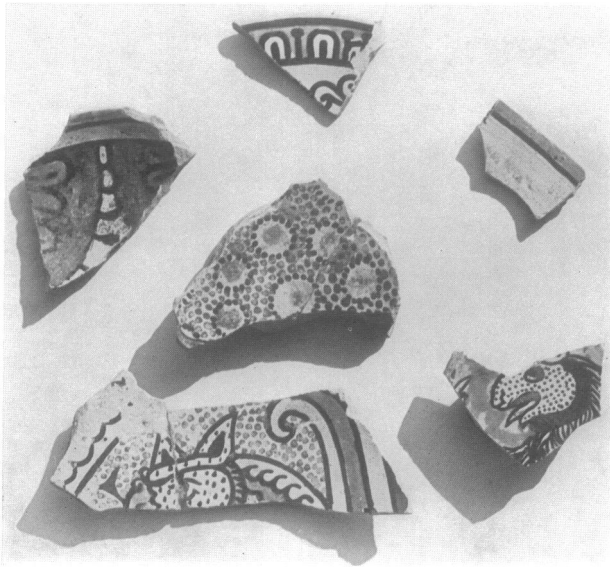


15. Impressed Ware Dish, BP. 113 (1:3)



14. Persian Dish, BP. 145 (1:3)

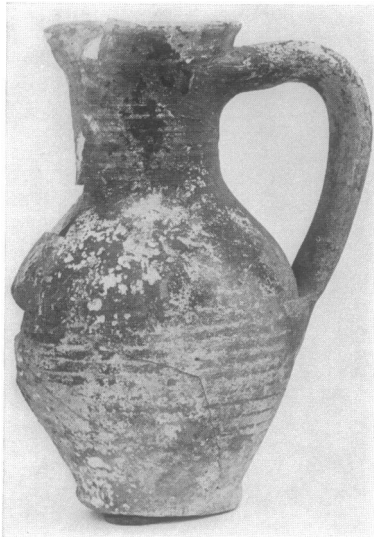




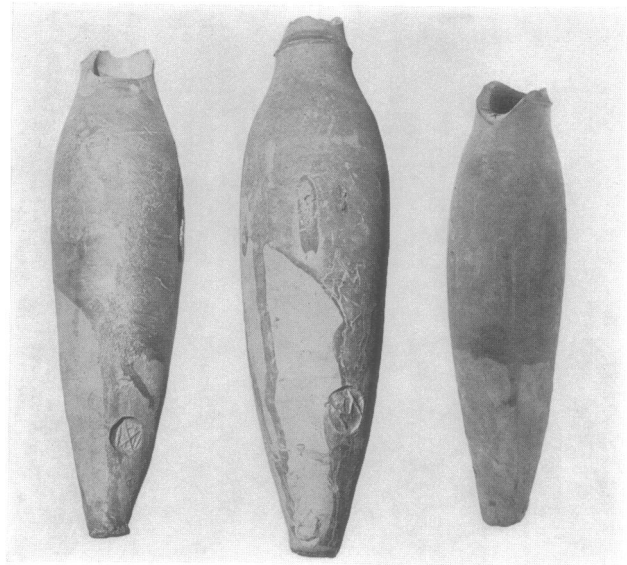
16. Selected Polychrome Sherds (1:3)



17. Impressed Ware Dish, BP. 192 (1:3)



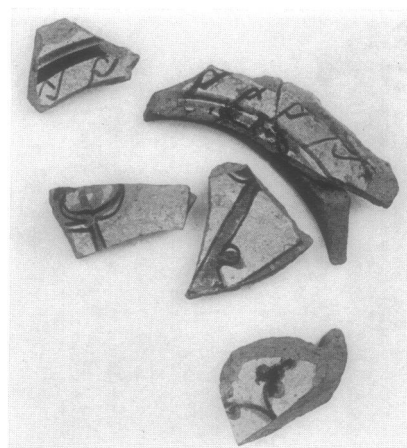
18. White Ware Jug, RP. 83 (1:3)



19. Three *Unguentaria*, from Left to Right RP. 34, 36, 84 (1:3)



20. Late Roman Dish, RP. 86 (1:3)



21. Egyptian Bowl, RP. 74 (1:3)